

Application No. 10/740,747
Amendment dated January 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 3, 2005

REMARKS

Applicant cancelled claims 2-9 without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter, amended claim 1, and added new claims 10-31 to further define Applicant's claimed invention. Applicant amended the title to reflect the subject matter of the pending claims. New claims 10-31 are supported at least by the specification on page 6, lines 11-15; page 12, lines 23-25; and Figs. 4 and 4A-D.

On December 19, 2003, Applicant requested an interference with U.S. Application No. 10/222,571 (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0193881) to Shapiro et al. under 37 C.F.R. § 1.604(a). The present application and the application to Shapiro are commonly owned. Further, previously copied claim 22 of the Shapiro et al. application has been cancelled from the Shapiro et al. application. Accordingly, Applicant hereby withdraws the request for interference with the Shapiro application.

To the extent any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this reply, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1068.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 23, 2006

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